



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/977,686	10/16/2001	Joseph R. Nardone	003636.0125	3773

7590 12/21/2004
ASHOK K MANNAVA
281 MURTHA STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22304

EXAMINER

LESNIEWSKI, VICTOR D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 12/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/977,686

Applicant(s)

NARDONE ET AL.

Examiner

Victor Lesniewski

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/17/02 & 6/28/02
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application has been examined.
2. Claims 1-20 are now pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The IDS filed 1/17/2002 and the IDS filed 6/28/2002 have been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Alam et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,324,544), hereinafter referred to as Alam.
6. Alam has disclosed:

- <Claim 1>

A method of reconciling data between a host device and a remote device connected to the host device, the method comprising steps of: commencing execution of an application on the remote device (column 10, lines 44-52); executing a synchronization instruction from the application (column 10, lines 53-62 and column 12, lines 15-26); and synchronizing

data stored in the remote device with data stored in the host device (column 13, lines 6-17).

- <Claim 2>

The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of establishing a communication link between the host device and the remote device for synchronizing the data (column 5, lines 35-52).

- <Claim 3>

The method of claim 1, further comprising steps of: launching a first synchronization process on the remote device in response to the step of executing a synchronization instruction (figure 6, item 140); and launching a second synchronization process on the host device in response to the step of executing a synchronization instruction (figure 6, item 148).

- <Claim 4>

The method of claim 3, wherein the step of synchronizing is performed by the first synchronization process and the second synchronization process (column 13, lines 38-49).

- <Claim 5>

The method of claim 4, wherein the step of executing a synchronization instruction further comprises executing from the application a synchronization instruction having at least one parameter (column 10, lines 9-23).

- <Claim 6>

The method of claim 5, wherein the at least one parameter identifies data for synchronization (column 11, lines 44-61).

- <Claim 7>

The method of claim 6, wherein the identified data includes data stored in at least one database in the remote device that is synchronized with data stored in an associated database in the host device (column 10, lines 53-62).

- <Claim 8>

The method of claim 5, wherein the at least one parameter includes a control parameter identifying an application to perform a next instruction after executing the synchronization instruction (column 10, lines 36-43).

- <Claim 9>

The method of claim 5, wherein the step of executing a synchronization instruction further comprises steps of: extracting the at least one parameter from the synchronization instruction; and storing the at least one parameter in memory in the remote device (column 12, lines 48-67).

- <Claim 10>

The method of claim 9, wherein the step of executing a synchronization instruction further comprises steps of: retrieving the stored at least one parameter from the memory; and executing from the application the synchronization instruction with the retrieved at least one parameter (column 12, line 67 through column 13, line 17).

- <Claim 11>

The method of claim 1, wherein the step of executing a synchronization instruction from the application further comprises executing the synchronization instruction in response to an event (column 10, lines 44-52).

- <Claim 12>

The method of claim 11, wherein the event comprises selecting a button or icon displayed by the application on the remote device (column 9, lines 14-22).

- <Claim 13>

The method of claim 11, wherein the event comprises selecting a menu item displayed by the application on the remote device (column 9, lines 14-22).

- <Claim 14>

The method of claim 11, wherein the event comprises one of selecting a form and closing a form displayed on the remote device (column 8, lines 9-14).

- <Claim 15>

A system comprising: a remote device including at least one first database (figure 1, items 12, 20, and 22); a host device connected to the remote device and including at least one second database (figure 1, items 14, 32, and 34), wherein the remote device is configured to execute a synchronization instruction for synchronizing the at least one first database and the at least one second database, and the synchronize instruction is executed from an application running on the remote device (column 10, lines 53-62; column 12, lines 15-26; and column 13, lines 6-17).

- <Claim 16>

The system of claim 15, wherein the remote device further comprises: a runtime engine executing the application (figure 1, item 24); and a memory storing a program file received from the host device, the program file including the synchronization instruction executed by the remote device (column 4, line 43 through column 5, line 11 and column 8, lines 34-49).

- <Claim 17>

The system of claim 16, wherein the runtime engine is configured to retrieve the synchronization instruction from the program file and execute the synchronization instruction (column 12, line 48 through column 13, line 17).

- <Claim 18>

The system of claim 17, wherein a first synchronization process is launched on the remote device and a second synchronization process is launched on the host device for synchronizing in response to the execution of the synchronization instruction (figure 6, items 140 and 148).

- <Claim 19>

The system of claim 17, wherein the host device further comprises an integrated design environment configured to generate the application and the program file, the application and the program file being downloaded to the remote device from the host device through a communication link (column 5, lines 28-52).

Art Unit: 2155

- <Claim 20>

A data synchronization system comprising: a host computer including an integrated design environment (figure 1, item 14), a first plurality of databases (figure 1, items 32 and 34), and at least one application (figure 1, item 30); wherein the host computer is configured to generate the at least one application and a program file including instructions executed with the application (column 5, lines 28-34); and a portable remote computer connected to the host computer (figure 1, item 12), the portable remote computer including a runtime engine (figure 1, item 24), and a second plurality of databases (figure 1, items 20 and 22); wherein the portable computer is configured to receive the at least one application and program file from the host computer (column 5, lines 28-52), and the runtime engine is configured to execute the at least one application and a synchronization instruction in the program file for synchronizing at least one database in the second plurality of databases with at least one associated database from the first plurality of databases (column 10, lines 53-62; column 12, lines 15-26; and column 13, lines 6-17).

Since all the limitations of the invention as set forth in claims 1-20 were disclosed by Alam, claims 1-20 are rejected.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure.

Art Unit: 2155


- Feague (U.S. Patent Number 6,247,135) disclosed a method for synchronization process negotiation.
- Wu (U.S. Patent Number 6,442,570) disclosed an object identification function to synchronize objects between a portable and a desktop computer.
- Huang et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,553,375) disclosed a management system for distributing applications and databases from a server to intermittently connected handheld devices.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor Lesniewski whose telephone number is 571-272-3987.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Victor Lesniewski
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2155


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER